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BOURNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1969





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Councillor Mrs J. M. Wherry

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1969

To the Chairman and Members of
the Bourne Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my fifteenth Annual Report of the Vital Statistics, Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Urban District.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area in acres	10,103
Population - Census 1961	5,339
Population - Registrar General's Estimate 1969	5,810
Number of Inhabited Houses	2,086
Rateable Value	184,605
Sum represented by a 1d. rate	725

VITAL STATISTICS

Extract from Vital Statistics for the year 1969.

Birth and Death Rates

As the age and sex distribution of the population in different areas materially affects both the birth and death rates of these areas, comparability factors allowing for this are issued by the Registrar for each Local Government unit. These factors may be used for calculating what are termed in this Report as 'NET' rates and fair comparisons are obtained if the latter are used when comparing rates with those of any other area (when these have been similarly adjusted) or with the rates for the Country as a whole.

These factors for Births and Deaths in respect of Bourne are 1.00 and 1.00 respectively. The corresponding figure when multiplied by the crude rate (that is for Births or Deaths as the case may be) will give the net rate. In this way adjustments are made for Boundary Changes and also account is taken of the presence of any residential institutions within the area.

	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Live Births	39	50	89
Legitimate	36	48	84
Illegitimate	3	2	5
Crude live birth rate per 1,000 of estimated population			15.3
Net live birth rate per 1,000 estimated population			15.3
Rate for England and Wales			16.3
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births			5.6

Still births	-	-	-
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	-	-	NIL
Rate for England and Wales			13.0
Total live and still births			89

	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Deaths	32	30	62
Crude death rate per 1,000 estimated population			10.7
Net death rate per 1,000 of estimated population			10.7
Rate for England and Wales			11.9

Infantile Mortality (i.e. deaths of infants under the age of one year)	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	-	-	-

Total number of deaths	-	-	-
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Infantile mortality rate per 1,000 live births			NIL
Rate for England and Wales.			18.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 live births			NIL
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate births			NIL

Neo-natal deaths (i.e. deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age)	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Neo-natal mortality rate over 1,000 live births	-	-	NIL
Rate for England and Wales	-	-	12.0

	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Early neo-natal deaths i.e. deaths of infants under one week	-	-	NIL
Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	-	-	NIL
Rate for England and Wales			10.0
Perinatal mortality rate (i.e. still-births and deaths under one week combined) per 1,000 live and still births			NIL
Rate for England and Wales			23.0
Maternal mortality (i.e. death due to pregnancy and child-birth or abortion)			NIL
Rate for England and Wales			0.25

The Birth Rate at 15.3 was exactly one per thousand less than the National figure. This is the fifth successive year in which this has occurred. The National figure also continued its slight downward course of recent years. The illegitimate birth percentage of the total fell from 8.6 per cent - the present National one - to 5.6. This is good but, even at this, five babies were born this year without their birthright of two parents to tend them within a secure home. They start Life under a handicap through no fault of their own.

The Death Rate of 10.7 was also precisely one per thousand less than that for England and Wales as a whole.

It is of interest that neither the local birth or death rates had to be adjusted, as both Comparability Factors were unity. This in effect indicates that the population in Bourne is now from a compositional point of view for age and sex exactly similar to that of a cross section of the whole Nation. We are in fact entirely representative!

The natural increase, that is the excess of live births over deaths, was twenty seven an increase of nineteen over the 1968 figure. Additionally this year has seen a considerable influx of new population, many from Peterborough, and this has been in the younger age groups predominantly.

The figure for Infantile Mortality in England and Wales remained at 18.0 per thousand live births; which has been equalled but never surpassed. Bourne has again excelled in not having a single death under the age of one year; and this is for the third year in succession!

The Perinatal Mortality figure is the most significant of all the infant mortality statistics in indicating the standards of obstetrical and Child Care. The National figure was 23 and the local one nil, which speaks for the excellency of the above mentioned standards. It also bears testimony to the way in which the young mothers in Bourne tend and nurture their babies.

It must be borne in mind that with the relatively small population of 5810 a slight variation in the number of births and deaths can cause a big swing in the rates. Accordingly it would be unwise to read too much into the local figures over a period of just one year.

The introduction of Computers does not always speed the statistics! Those from the Registrar General on which this section depend were three weeks later than in previous years.

CAUSES OF DEATH

Cause of Death	Sex	Total all ages	Ages in Years					
			1-	5-	35-	45-	55-	75 and over
Malignant Neoplasm, Desophagus	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	2	-	-	-	-	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	F	3	-	-	-	1	-	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	2
Leukaemia	F	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Other Malignant Neoplasm	F	3	-	-	-	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System, Etc.	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hypertensive Disease	F	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	5	-	-	-	-	2	2
Other forms of Heart Disease	M	7	-	-	-	-	1	5
Cerebrovascular Disease	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	2
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	4
Influenza	M	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Pneumonia	M	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Bronchitis and Emphysema	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Asthma	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
All other Accidents	M	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	1	-	-	1
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	32	-	-	1	-	7	10
	F	30	1	-	1	2	1	7
								14 18

Cardio-Vascular diseases again head the list of causes of death, claiming thirty two of the sixty two; with Coronary diseases accounting for eight and Strokes for seven. With the defeat of so many of the communicable diseases and the control over infective conditions in general it is obvious that the degenerative diseases associated with age must become of increasing importance. Currently research workers in many countries are trying to unravel the mysteries of these processes and how best they can be circumvented and slowed. The answer is not yet plain. Meantime much can be done by following healthy patterns of living. Work should be balanced with relaxation, those following sedentary occupations should take regular exercise. A period of quietude is a good antidote to the pressures of this busy world, which as Robert Bridges puts it:-

" Toiled, moiled, fussed and scurried,
Worried, bought and sold,
Plotted, stole and quarrelled,
Fought and God knows what".

It is also highly desirable not to linger too long over the flesh pots nor look too long at the wine when it is red!

Malignant growths hold second place in the league of death with seventeen. It is moderately satisfactory that there should on this occasion be only one from Cancer of the Lung. It would be even more gratifying if it could be believed that this was due to a decline in the smoking habits. These would need to be much better than in the country as a whole where three fifths of the men still smoke.

It will be seen that there was no case of Cancer of the Uterus, but Cancer of the Breast claimed three victims. Cervical Cytology is now a generally accepted and valuable screening procedure.

Self examination of the breast is an easily acquired technique. If generally practised by all women over forty years of age it would greatly reduce deaths from cancer of this site. Early recognition leads to treatment at a stage when it can be carried out most successfully. There is little chance of developing hypochondria by taking this precaution.

The Respiratory group of diseases accounted for seven and of these four were in large measure attributable to the influenza outbreak which hit the town in December. It must be a long time since so many Christmas dinners went untouched or unrelished. The virus was particularly harsh on those in the older age categories, as it its wont.

Accidents resulted in three deaths.

A man aged thirty five was killed at work from an electric shock. He was handling a crane and

manipulating a prestressed concrete beam when part of the crane touched the overhead power cables.

A woman aged ninety five fell in her home and fractured her femur with fatal results.

Thirdly a woman of thirty nine died from asphyxia by aspirating food.

For the first time in three years there was no suicide in Bourne.

Thirty two of the sixty two deaths occurred in those aged over seventy five, that is fifty two per cent. Longevity is now the experience of the majority and this fact and the statistical figures should be fully noted by those who plan the Sociomedical Service and Housing.

In this latter context, stairs, the avoidance of built in hazards and warmth are of paramount importance.

HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Nursing in the Home

Two District Nurse/Midwives, Miss Tully and Miss Windle serve the Bourne Community and the neighbouring villages of Morton and Thurlby. They are relieved by Mrs Thacker, S.R.N.,S.C.M.

Welfare Food Services

These are provided from the North Street Welfare Centre and are available between the following hours:-

Tuesday	3.00 p.m.	-	4.00 p.m.
Wednesday	3.00 p.m.	-	4.00 p.m.
Thursday	10.00 a.m.	-	12 noon and 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.
Friday	3.00 p.m.	-	4.00 p.m.

Home Help Service

This is a County Health Department Function. Mrs I. M. Pepper is the District Home Help Organiser, Barn Hill Clinic, Stamford. Telephone Number Stamford 2906, and to her, application

should be made for assistance.

Monday to Friday	8.45 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.
	1.30 p.m. - 5.15 p.m.

This year marks the completion of two decades for this most humanitarian work. It originated as a Service to the Expectant Nursing Mother, but is now largely dedicated to helping the Elderly, the Disabled and those in Social distress. It permits the elderly to remain in their own homes, where they so long to be, but would otherwise find no alternative but a Welfare or Hospital bed. It tides the ordinary family over a domestic crisis and so often keeps a Problem Family out of serious trouble. The work it does places it in the fore front of the Social Services.

FIVE Home Helps are employed at the Bourne Urban District and during the year assisted SEVENTEEN cases, of whom fifteen were over 65 years of age. One Good Neighbour also provided assistance in the vicinity of her own home.

Health Visiting

There is an establishment of one Health Visitor for Bourne and District. After the post being unfilled for nearly three years this deficiency was rectified by the appointment of Mrs J. Smith. She is assisted by the two School Nurses, Mrs C. Lingard and Miss Henfrey.

An advisory service to the whole family is included in the work but particular emphasis is laid on counselling those who have the care of young children, or a handicapped child. Assistance is also given to the Physically Handicapped, the Elderly and the Socially incompetent and the surveillance of the patient with Tubercle, his contacts and his Welfare are included in the Service.

Mental Welfare

Mr. H. S. Townsend, Mental Welfare Officer provides the link between the family doctor, the mentally ill patient and the hospital service. He also carries out the statutory duties laid down in the Mental Welfare Act 1959 and does preventive work in this field, covering the Bourne area. He is based at Barn Hill House, Stamford, Telephone Number, Stamford 2906, but lives at Bourne, where his Telephone Number is Bourne 2983.

Ambulance Service

Two ambulances and two dual-purpose vehicles are stationed in Bourne. As usual all the demands made upon the service were efficiently met.

Infant Welfare and School Clinics

The School Clinic is held on Thursday mornings at the Welfare Centre, North Street and a doctor attends on the first and third mornings in the month. An increasing number of Infant Welfare visits are being paid, as well. Assessments of Handicapped Children are also done. To meet a slowly increasing demand Infant Welfare Sessions are now held every Thursday afternoon and a doctor attends the first and third. The average attendance has increased this year to sixty per session, from fifty in the previous year. It is staffed by the Health Visitor assisted by one or other of the School Nurses. Again the writer would like to thank the kind and enthusiastic help of the band of voluntary workers who contribute so much to the vitality of the Clinic, by making available baby foods, supplements to the mothers, record keeping and the creation of a homely atmosphere.

Routine testing for phenylketonurea continued but no case was found of this rare condition!

Regular Ophthalmic, Physiotherapy and Speech Therapy Clinics are held. A Child psychiatry Clinic is also held at the Children's Hostel, West Street, Bourne with Dr. V. Holdway in charge of it.

School Dental Service

During the year, all the children attending primary schools were dentally inspected. A total of 2760 inspections were made and 1220 were found to need treatment. 1687 were inspected for the first time and of these 682 were found in need of treatment. A total of 1118 courses of treatment were completed during the year. The ratio of fillings to extractions was two to one.

Marginally fewer permanent teeth were extracted this year by comparison with 1968 but twenty five per cent fewer deciduous teeth were extracted in the School Age groups.

Nineteen orthodontic cases were treated and twenty two dental appliances were fitted. During the period, 383 sessions were devoted to treatment and 58 to inspections.

Chairside opportunities were grasped to further dental health. It is of much regret that after building up this Service following a long hiatus in it that Mr. Larsons should be now leaving to enter private practice.

Immunisation and Vaccination

Free Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis protection is provided by the family doctors as is vaccination against, Small Pox and Measles also. The same services are available at the North Street Clinic.

Mothercraft and Relaxation Classes

During the year thirty eight young, expectant mothers attended these classes making an aggregate attendance of Two Hundred and Sixty Two. There were twenty two Bourne residents in this thirty eight. These classes compounded of educational and social facets are very popular. Health Educational films and some of topical interest such as that on the Guthrie test were shown.

The classes are held by Mrs J. Smith H.V.C. at the Clinic on Wednesdays from 2.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Cervical Cytology

The family doctors play a full part in this service. A Clinic is also held at Barnhill House, Stamford; and Bourne women have availed themselves of this on occasion. Four hundred and thirty five patients attended and one unsuspected case of Cancer of the Cervix was found as well as thirteen other gynaecological conditions requiring treatment. The clinic is shared by Dr. Anne Whately and the writer, and is held on the second and fourth Thursday afternoons in each month. Appointments can be made with Mrs J. Williams, Centre Secretary, Barn Hill House, Stamford, Telephone 2906.

Hospital Services

These are provided by the East Anglia Regional Hospital Board who control the Butterfield Hospital and the Bourne Chest Hospital. The main general hospital services are based on the new District Hospital at Peterborough and the Stamford Hospital. Hospital provision for the Mentally ill or the Subnormal is made by the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board at Rauceby and Harmston Hall respectively.

Venereal Diseases

Clinics are held at the out-patients department, Memorial Hospital Peterborough under Dr. N. A. Ross.

Males:- Mondays 5.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m., Wednesdays 5.30 p.m. - 6.30 p.m.

Females:- Tuesdays 10.30 a.m. - 11.30 a.m. Thursdays 4.30 p.m. - 5.30 p.m.

Laboratory Facilities

A fully comprehensive bacteriological service under the control of Dr. E. J. G. Glencross is provided at the Peterborough District Hospital. I would like to acknowledge with gratitude the ever ready help and courtesy extended to us throughout the year by Dr. Glencross and his staff.

Family Planning

A clinic is held at Barnhill, Stamford by Dr. M. G. Orrell for those wishing advice on methods of contraception and on sexual problems.

The sessions are:-

First Tuesday in each month 2.00 p.m. - 3.45 p.m.

Second Tuesday in each month 7.00 p.m. - 8.45 p.m.

Third Tuesday in each month 7.00 p.m. - 8.45 p.m.

Patients are seen by appointment through the Honorary Secretary F.P.A. Stamford 2906 during Clinic hours or by letter to the Barnhill Clinic.

PREVALANCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	<u>Erysipelas</u>	<u>Pneumonia</u>	<u>Measles</u>	<u>Scarlet Fever</u>	<u>Infective Hepatitis</u>	<u>Dysentery</u>
Under 1 year	-	-	3	-	-	-
1 - 2	-	-	12	-	-	-
3 - 4	-	-	22	-	1	-
5 - 9	-	-	37	8	1	-
10 - 14	-	-	6	-	-	-
15 - 19	-	-	1	-	1	-
20 - 34	-	-	1	-	2	-
35 - 44	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	-	-	-	-	2	1
65 and Over	-	-	-	-	1	-
Ages Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	-	82	8	8	1

The incidence of notifiable infectious diseases, excluding Tuberculosis, was ninety nine compared with sixty seven in 1968 and sixty six in 1967. This increase was entirely due to the biennial visit of the measles virus which accounted for eighty two of the total. It is hoped that there will be a more acceptable Measles Vaccine before the next epidemic is due in 1971. Certainly the present one has had a cool reception due in all probability to the fact that some children react quite strongly to it compared with the other vaccines commonly used in infancy and childhood. Its great advantages lie in being able to choose the time when a child is indisposed and in its non-communicability compared with the wild virus.

The infective hepatitis which was a feature last year, when there were forty six cases in St. Peters Hospital. This started in the early summer of 1968 and occurred sporadically for the remainder of that year. It then continued into the one now under review when three more cases occurred in the Hospital and five in the community outside. The incubation period can be up to fifty days and the normal methods of control are different. In a closed community the use of Gamma Globulin is well worth a trial and it certainly appeared most effective when used in somewhat similar circumstances in another part of the County.

There was one case of Dysentery; breaking the two previous years immunity. This was diagnosed on clinical ground, but full laboratory examination of specimens from the patient and his home contacts proved negative.

It is now nineteen years since Poliomyelitis last struck in Bourne. Immunity only too easily breeds apathy; there is a new generation of mothers who have never watched at the bedside of a stricken child or seen a formerly healthy, active one crippled for life as a result of this cruel disease. If this freedom is to be maintained and tragedy is never to be re-enacted than it is the duty of every mother to ensure that her child has the necessary protection given during its first year and again at school age. The vaccine is given by mouth and what could be an easier and more worth while insurance premium. Out of the 81 babies born in 1968 sixty two were protected, 76.5 per cent compared with the county average of 66.7 per cent. But what of the nineteen whose mothers have neglected their duty? The picture is little better for Diphtheria immunisation and the need is just as great as for the Poliomyelitis if tragic death or disability is to be kept away from the town. Of the eighty one born in 1968 sixty four had Diphtheria protection or 79.3 per cent the County average is 62.7 per cent - but this is just not good enough! Again I wish to appeal to all mothers who have not yet done so to get their susceptible babies protected now. At the age of sixteen any child can now, legally, opt for these and any other injection without parental consent but by then it may be too late - except for remorse. Don't be misled by the twenty two year immunity, this can only be maintained by the personal effort of each mother.

Influenza was rife at the end of the year, reaching epidemic proportions around the Christmas

period. There was no evidence in retrospect of prior vaccination against the influenza virus being really effective. This was possibly due to the fact that whilst the original virus was the Hong Kong variant of the Asian influenza, later in the outbreak this was hybridised to produce another new variant. It would be most unlikely that the strains included in any of these vaccines would have afforded protection against this.

A card of precautions published by the Council is given to all their workers who might be considered at risk of contracting Weil's Disease. This is an infection carried to man via rat contamination of damp places such as ditches and dykes. Any member of the public who works in similar situations can have a copy on application to the Health Department. A case in a neighbouring Rural area with fatal consequences gives warning that this is no theoretical risk.

Blood tests for Widal, and other specimens where applicable are obtained from Water Board Personnel working within this area and bacteriological checks are maintained.

Venereal Disease

The number of new cases for the South part of the County which looks to the Peterborough District Hospital for treatment, was fifty three. Of these eight were teenage girls and seven were teenage boys. This figure cannot be regarded as fully comprehensive as some go further afield for treatment. The corresponding figure for 1968 was forty and for 1967 twenty five. It is regretted that the exact figure for Bourne itself is not available.

The increasing local incidence is completely in line with the National one which makes this disease, numerically, the most common contagious one after measles and some seem to contract it first!! There are over 160,000 new cases a year - that is over 3,000 new cases each week. If that does not place it in the epidemic category, what will? Furthermore, the drugs which were originally considered to be highly effective in treatment are proving to no longer be so.

Tuberculosis

There was one new case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year. The case occurred in a female in her third decade. There was no incidence of the non-pulmonary variety. Though the number of new cases is much lower than it used to be one would not have thought there was any firm justification for the decision to stop the Mass Radiography Service. That the infection is still a malevolent factor in the land is borne out by the fact that 114 patients with Tuberculosis attended Bourne Chest Hospital during the year, of whom four had positive sputums and therefore were infectious at some time during that period. Eight new cases were seen over the same twelve months.

The close liaison between the Chest Clinic Staff and the Health Visitor continued to be of
(12)

incalculable benefit to all concerned, particularly the patient and his family and in following up contacts.

The B.C.G. Vaccination scheme for school children was continued. Protection was offered to 134 at the two senior schools and of these 129 were heel skin tested. One hundred and eighteen were found to be negative and all but one of these was given B.C.G. Vaccination. Ten were found to be positive and where it was considered desirable a chest X-Ray was arranged. Fortunately no active Tubercle was found.

A visit by the Mass Radiography Unit of the East Anglia Regional Hospital Board took place at the Corn Exchange from April 1st to April 10th.

The statistics and findings of the survey are given below. Those working in the factories in the Stamford area were also given a chance at their work place to have a chest X-Ray and many availed themselves to the opportunity.

RESULTS OF MASS X-RAY SURVEY, BOURNE PUBLIC, LINCS

APRIL 1st 1969 - APRIL 10th 1969

	M	F	T
No. attended for x-ray	771	708	1479
No. attended for the first time	273	275	548
<u>GROUPS ATTENDING</u>			
General Public and Small Firms	740	565	1305
Schools: Teachers	3	8	11
Students and school leavers	4	6	10
School Staff	3	23	26
Digby Court Old People's Home: Residents	14	21	35
Nursing Staff	-	3	3
Domestic Staff	1	5	6
St. Peter's Hospital: Residents	-	52	52
Staff	6	25	31
<hr/>			
	771	708	1479

Attendance by Age Group

	M	F	T
15 - 19 years	66	89	155
20 - 24	63	77	140
25 - 34	134	103	237
35 - 44	171	160	331
45 - 54	162	126	288
55 - 59	86	62	148
60 - 64	37	27	64
65 and over	52	64	116
	771	708	1479

Attendance by Area of Domicile

Peterborough	13	3	16
Rutland	1	2	3
Lincs.	635	604	1239
Kesteven	119	98	217
Miscellaneous (out of area)	3	1	4
	771	708	1479

FindingsA. Non-Tuberculous Conditions

	M	F	T
1. Congenital anomalies of bony thorax	7	10	17
2. Acquired conditions of bony thorax	4	1	5
3. Developmental pulmonary conditions	4	2	6
4. Chronic bronchitis (gross)	5	4	9
5. Benign intrathoracic neoplasm	-	1	1
6. Malignant intrathoracic neoplasm	1	-	1
7. Pleural thickening and fibrosis consequent on previous pulmonary inflammation	22	14	36
8. Acquired cardiac conditions	4	6	10

B. Tuberculous Conditions

	M	F	T
1. Old calcified primary lesions requiring no further action	8	13	21
2. Newly discovered lesions calcified or reported non-significant by Chest Clinic	1	2	3
3. Previously diagnosed tuberculosis already under, or previously under Chest Clinic supervision	-	2	2
4. Newly discovered significant Tuberculosis requiring a) treatment b) interval supervision at Chest Clinic	-	1	1
	-	1	1

Summary

Two new cases of tuberculosis found at Bourne in 1969 - one requiring treatment - among 1479 persons examined. Three others were deemed of importance by the Chest Clinic.

One case of bronchial carcinoma and ten cardiac conditions also noted.

From this table it would certainly appear that these surveys have by no means outlived their usefulness.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

The responsibility for the supply and distribution of water is that of the South Lincolnshire Water Board on which Bourne is represented by one elected member.

There has, since its inception, been a very close liaison between the Health Department and that Authority with exchange of information on all matters of mutual interest, such as water sampling analysis, both chemical and bacteriological. Notice is given in every case where the water supply has been cut off for the non-payment of the Rate, and when constructional work is commenced. In return examination of employees and the taking of blood for Widal sampling was undertaken. This culminated in the appointment of your Medical Officer as the Board's first official Medical Advisor, which for him was a happy event that should lead to even closer co-operation, if possible, between the Water Board, and the three Southern Districts of Kesteven.

Bourne provides a great source of water to the Board for a much wider area than the town itself. It is derived from the Lower Oolite Strata of the Lincolnshire limestone by means of 8 inch, 13 inch and 36 inch bores, of a depth of 150 ft. It is of the highest standard of purity but exceedingly

hard as would be expected from its sources. It is on average at 30ft. artesian pressure. Fluoride is only present in trace amounts and there is no tendency to plumbo-soloving. A typical analysis is appended.

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN MILLIGRAMS PER LITRE (ppm)

Appearance.....	Clear and Bright.....	
.....	Nil
Colour (Hazen).....	Nil	Odour
pH	7.2	Free Carbon Dioxide 30
Electric Conductivity	660	Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C 470
Chlorine present as Chloride	25	Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate 200
Hardness: Total	380	Carbonate..... 200 Non-carbonate..... 180
Nitrate Nitrogen	2.8	Nitrite Nitrogen absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen *	0.00	Oxygen Absorbed 0.10
Albyminoid Nitrogen *	0.00	Residual Chlorine 0.00
Metals Iron	0.04	Sulphate 4 140
Zinc, Copper, Lead: Absent		
Fluoride(F):	0.10	

Bacteriological results show complete freedom from Coli or Welchii organism.

This sample is clear and bright in appearance and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water is neutral in reaction, very hard but not excessively so, it contains no excess of mineral constituents and it is of very satisfactory organic quality.

From the aspect of the chemical analysis these results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

I wish to thank Mr. N. A. Eagles, Engineer and Manager of the Water Board for the comments which follow:

Water Supply to the Bourne Urban District for
the period 1st January, to 31st December, 1969

The total quantity of water supplied to the Bourne Urban District from the source works at Manning Road Pumping Station during the year was 81,800,000 gallons which is an increase of 3,496,000 gallons (4.5%) above the 1968 figure. The average daily quantity supplied was 224,000 gallons which represents a consumption of 39.7 gallons per head per day.

Samples of the raw and chlorinated water were taken each week from the source works at Bourne and submitted for bacteriological analysis; all samples were satisfactory. Enclosed is a copy of a chemical analysis of the Bourne source taken during the year.

The following table shows the lengths and diameters of mains laid in the Urban District during the year:

Location	Yards				
	3"	4"	6"	10"	Total
Station Yard	80				80
Forest View Estate	307	95	12		414
Manor Lane Estate	248	50		254	552
Mill Drove	198	197			392
Exeter Street Estate	159				159
TOTALS	992	342	12	254	1,600

The net increase in domestic services during
the year was 39

These figures show that once again the per capita consumption of water has increased. It is now 39.7 gallons per person per day as compared with 37.3 gallons per head in 1968. This upward trend is one which will continue inexorably and is one very cogent reason why our water resources must be conserved and kept free from pollution. In this respect the time will surely come when heavy industrial consumers of water will be required to regenerate and recirculate the water they use instead of running it to waste. In logic conservation of the water resources we already possess, instead of using them improvidently would be a better solution than drowning many acres of fertile land to form artificial reservoirs.

Regular weekly samples of water were taken for bacteriological analysis throughout the year from both the bores and at various points on the distribution network.

The increasing usage of water whilst indicative of higher living standards in general, does create increased demands on the Sewage Purification Works. The high dilution of the raw sewage by infiltration water meant the Works had to deal with large volumes of relatively dilute sewage. The policy of separating the rain water from the foul sewers has resulted in a greatly reduced volume being delivered to the Works but of a much high strength, which created problems. No-one is better qualified, however, to comment on Sewage disposal and the pressures upon it than our vigilant Surveyor Mr. M. Silverwood for his observations I am most grateful. These are:-

'In last year's report I was pleased to give indication that the contract for the laying of new trunk sewers from the sewage works into the town centre was in progress. This work was completed in excellent time during the Autumn and the results although highly satisfactory from a drainage point of view, have created certain side effects.'

In the first instance the separation of storm and infiltrating water and the removal of the old brick culvert which reached from the sewage works to the Market Place and beyond, have once and for all removed a lot of the visible and invisible troubles in the town's drainage system.

I reported last year of various locations which had already benefited from the work due to flood prevention, they were Bedehouse Bank, Spalding Road and Willoughby Road, and now by the re-arrangement of the flow from the western area the liability of flooding in Harrington Street has been minimised. Many sources of infiltrating water were cut off, but the biggest source in Church Walk was removed towards the completion of the scheme, and this had an immediate effect on the flow to the works. This sudden prevention of clean water from the works did have unfortunately severe effects on the purification process. With the invaluable help of Mr. Maxfield a close examination of effluent was maintained continuously and it became obvious that the sudden rise in the strength of the sewage had caused considerable overloading of the filters. This trouble occurred during an

extremely dry period but immediately rainfall occurred the results improved. Quite clearly during the forthcoming year, experiments will have to be carried out on the process of re-circulation which was outlined in my report last year.

I must at this stage pay tribute to the work of Mr Maxfield, whose interpretation of analysis results presents the department with an immediate report on the condition of the sewage works at all times, and more particularly when troubles such as these are occurring. Various experiments are planned, and it is hoped that the maintenance of a good effluent will be maintained.

During the year the Bourne Appraisal Map was approved and this indicated that considerable areas of land to the west had been allocated for residential development, this together with areas of land to the east which are scheduled for light industrial development obviously will have to be catered for in the future. The Public Health Committee therefore are in the process of considering the question of extending the sewage works in conjunction with the Council's Consulting Engineers. There is now very little margin in the capacity of the sewage works and with increasing development this particular aspect will become one of major importance.

On the question of surface water drainage the concern of the Public Health Committee last year had resulted in various matters being carried out during the year. In the first place consideration was given in January to a report by the Consulting Engineers for the enlargement of the Harrington Street brook and culvert. The high capital cost of this scheme caused the Committee to consider alternative methods of dealing with upland surface water entering the town from the west. As a result a survey was carried out encompassing the whole western area of the district ranging north and south. This resulted in it being feasible to divert the majority of this water southwards and thence into the Carr Dyke. Preliminary negotiations were made with the Welland and Nene River Authority whose approval in principle was sought and given. The scheme has considerable capital cost advantage in the short period but when further investigations are completed, subsequent to the approval of the Bourne Appraisal Map it is felt that future development considerations may nullify in the long term such financial advantages. It is hoped that during next year this question will have resolved itself and the Committee can issue further instructions to their Consulting Engineers.

As I reported last year, the signs of development of the residential commercial and industrial premises are increasing and in furtherance of this the Council to aid the industrial areas to the east gave instructions for the laying of a new public sewer southward along Tunnel Bank. One great advantage of this sewer has been that it will enable the Bourne Chest Hospital to be connected to main drainage. This work is evidence of the Council's resolve to provide adequate drainage facilities for any expansion which is evident within the Urban District.

Probably the most important problem which the Council's Public Health Committee have to face is the very high capital outlay which is necessitated by drainage schemes, and as by the very nature

of the work such expenditure has always to be considered in an extremely long term study, it does mean that both Consultants and Senior Officers have to advise the Committee very often on matters which are not likely to arise for a decade or more. This of course is where the difficulty lies for members of any Local Authority to convince ratepayers where the biggest rise in rates is always caused by drainage costs, that they are having to pay for posterity.

The Public Health Committee next year will have all these questions to consider and it is hoped that the decisions taken and instructions given will provide for the future wellbeing of the inhabitants and ratepayers of Bourne for many years to come.'

Mr. Maxfield our Staff Chemist has contributed very effectively to the smooth running of the Works. His equation of his laboratory findings to 'on the spot' advice is invaluable. A laboratory report is of little practical help if it is not followed up personally by someone who knows the idiosyncrasies and working procedures of the Sewage disposal works to which it refers. It is this happy marriage which has been the outstandingly significant outcome of his appointment. All modern Works must be regarded as a factory where complex bacteriological and chemical processes go on. This is becoming even more apparent as the products of our effluent society are committed to the drains. There are oven cleaners, washing powders, detergents, enzymes and spray residues and other pollutants to be treated. In this context may it be stressed how deadly are the effects of petrol, oils and lubricants on the works. These even in small quantities can annihilate the bacteriological process on which purification depends and cause a local disaster not a whit less serious, except for size, than the Torrey Canyon did. It is reprehensible in the extreme to let these get into the sewage system. The River Boards are very rightly demanding strict adherence to high standards of chemical purity before they will accept final effluents. It is more than likely that in time standards better than those of the Royal Commission, which are over sixty years old, may be insisted upon. These factors should be borne in mind in planning ahead so that there is adequate spare capacity to meet future demands.

Mr. Maxfield speaks of his work:-

' The Laboratory

After initial training the Assistant Chemist Mr. H. Herd appointed in February, 1969, proved to be a very important factor in the wider scope of work carried out in the Laboratory. Mr. Herd's resignation in October of the same year came as a disappointment and at a time when a considerable amount of extra work had been undertaken. It was most fortunate that the position was quickly taken by Miss J. Atkin, who has proved to be a most willing and enthusiastic Assistant.

The testing and evaluation of a chemical method of determining a good approximation of the B.O.D. value of waste waters has been carried out during the year. We now have an "Early Wafning"

method of analysis which can be completed in about 3 hours and enables, with a fair degree of accuracy, to assess the B.O.D. value of any particular sewage or sewage effluent. This can and has been a big asset since the B.O.D. test requires a 5 day incubation period during which time a sewage works effluent may rapidly deteriorate. The Chemical Oxygen Demand as it is called enables immediate action to be taken in the event of a declining effluent with the minimum of delay.

Sewage Treatment Works

Bourne Urban District Council

During the year this particular plant has had more than its fair share of difficulties. The removal of large quantities of infiltration water from the sewers during the latter part of August accentuated the problem of distribution of waste water onto the Biological Filters especially during this particularly dry part of the year. The quality of effluent from the plant rapidly deteriorated and for some time gave rise to some considerable concern. The reduction in flow to the works amounted to approximately 50-60% during the dry month of September-October. It will be appreciated that the removal of this amount of clean water from the sewers led to a very substantial increase in the strength of sewage and was instrumental in bringing about the deterioration of Effluent quality. "First Aid" was applied at the first signs of trouble. Some careful planning of balancing the various stages of pumping, distribution and the adoption of recirculation could not only improve the quality of the Effluent but also increase the capacity of the plant as a whole.

It is particularly sad that after only three years from completing extensions to the plant, difficulties in obtaining a consistently good Effluent are now encountered.

However, the Plant Attendants must be congratulated for their efforts during this most trying period since it is most depressing to work as they have done knowing that there is nothing they can do to improve the present functioning of the plant.

Out of 86 samples of Final Effluent analysed during the year 40 have been unsatisfactory with regard to B.O.D. and 8 with regard to suspended solids.

Private Water Supplies - Nitrate Content and Methemoglobinemia

It is known that feeds made up from water containing excessive amounts of nitrate salts can cause Methemoglobinemia in infants although growing children and adults are not affected. Because of this the World Health Organisation have set a limit of 45mg/l of NO_3^- on potable waters with a rider that 10mg/l may be significant.

On examining a private water supply derived from a spring surrounded by agricultural land it

was found that the nitrate content of the water was dramatically increased some two months after the land had been seeded and fertilised. Obviously the weather conditions, source of supply and lie of the land are vital factors in this type of pollution and the time between application of artificial fertilisers and appearance of nitrates in the water depends on all of these.

As a result of work done on this particular source of water a full survey of the whole South Kesteven Rural District Council and Bourne Urban District Council area private water supplies was undertaken. This has proved to be quite a formidable task, but a complete check of private water supplies in the Bourne Urban District Council area has been carried out and a good number of supplies in the South Kesteven Rural District Council area.

From the results of these analyses it is intended to follow closely particular supplies after the annual ritual of artificial fertiliser application in 1970 to confirm their pollution on certain sources of water supply.

A particularly interesting and perhaps disturbing factor involved in this type of pollution is that if water supplies are being affected to any great extent by the fertilisers put on the land can the same type of pollution occur with the multitude of pesticides, herbicides and other extremely toxic preparations used in farming today?

Since the analysis of water for these organo-chlorine and organo-phosphorous compounds involves extremely expensive modern instruments the more simple detection of nitrates in water supplies could be used as an indicator in a similar manner to which bacteriological analyses are carried out.

The final results of this survey are awaited with extreme interest.

Odour Problem - Dyke Village

Emission of foul odours from the Vent. column on the rising main at Dyke led to many complaints. The problem was tackled by the use of chlorinating liquids and frequent flushing of sewers. This being an extremely expensive method, the direct gas chlorination of the rising main was investigated and agreed upon. However the equipment was not available during the hot summer period and a permanent and very practical solution was effected by removing the Vent. column and replacing it with a sealed flushing pipe.

However the chlorinating equipment will be used as soon as it is ready for service since the formation of sulphides in the rising main can cause serious corrosive problems. The chlorinator will be portable and used at various points in the district where this problem is known to arise or is expected to arise in the future.

Miscellaneous

Various analyses have been undertaken by the Laboratory and included Swimming Pool water, Gas

leakage into soil, soil analyses, oil analyses, various watercourse samples, investigation of trade effluents, river samples and various public water supply samples.

Each case is a story in itself and too detailed to be included in this type of report. However, the Laboratory is now capable of undertaking almost any type of analytical work in relation to water pollution, water pollution control and public health work with the exception of bacteriological analysis which is so very well carried out at the Peterborough Public Health Laboratory.'

The desirable connection to the main sewerage system of the Chest Hospital on South Road has been agreed with the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board and should soon see fruition. It will join the head of the new Tunnel Bank Sewer.

The Council own and maintain Public Conveniences at the Recreation Ground at the Corn Exchange and in South Street. The two latter were subjected to vandalism on several occasions during the year. This wanton, stupid destruction of Public property cannot be too highly condemned. What is amazing is that no disapproving member of the general public ever sees and reports such anti social acts!

The swimming baths provided for the town by the Bourne United Charities had a large attendance this year thanks to the better weather. The bacteriology of the water is kept under constant surveillance and any fall from grace is given immediate attention.

The Council are the Burial Authority and there is ample provision of burial space for the foreseeable future. There were forty interments during the year. The nearest Crematorium is at Marholm, Peterborough and this is being increasingly used as an alternative to burial. Mortuary facilities are provided at the Stamford Hospital and this is convenient for the Pathologist and the Police. To meet local emergencies the arrangement has continued between this Council and the Management Committee of St. Peter's Hospital, Bourne for the use of the one at the Hospital should necessity arise. This co-operation is much appreciated.

A weekly domestic refuse collection from and to the house door is provided. The increase in new homes and the acreage of the Built up Area inevitably means an increased load on this service, which had to be augmented to keep up with its commitments. The refuse collectors do a wonderful job and is sufficient said in praise of their efforts? To help them the least the Public can do is to ensure that their trash is put only in standard bins. To have the contents of a wet cardboard box fall about ones person and feet should definitely not be part of a day's work for a collector, and few would want to step into his shoes to do the job. Paper and cardboard are salvaged and during the year 46tons 8cwt were collected, of this 43tons 3cwt was sold and £237 10s. was received in payment. Lest anyone, at this point, is thinking in terms of Rate relief, the cost of collection and haling came to £312 14s. On the other hand it is well worth while to keep this highly combustible

material away from the tip face; and collecting it separately does allow much more space in the freighters for the loads for which they were designed and intended. The Council are lucky to have a tipping site so close to the town in the disused railway cutting for long hauls are costly. A modified controlled tipping system is used and every effort is made to eliminate vermin and keep flies to a minimum.

Collection of trade waste is offered at a reasonable cost to owners of businesses. This varies from 1/3 to 5/- per week depending on the average size of the load to be removed. Forty one businesses have joined this scheme. Compared with many areas the disposal of old motor vehicles does not present a big problem. Arrangements were made with two owners to dump their vehicles on the tip. One did so but the other who found there were snags looked elsewhere. Two vehicles were abandoned in the town but the owner of one was traced within 48 hours and it was removed

No cases came to light during the year of infestation with bedbugs, fleas or scabies, giving a fourth year of freedom from these indices of domestic and personal neglect.

Though the climate conditions were favourable to their increase the rat population was kept well under control through the efforts of our Rodent Operator. Fortunately there is no evidence as yet of the rats in this area becoming Warfarin resistant as has happened in the West Midlands. Litter, apart from the inevitable amounts associated with the street markets which is quickly removed by the Surveyor's staff, is not a large or obtrusive problem and Bourne continues to live up to its reputation as being one of the cleanliest and most aesthetically pleasing small towns in all Lincolnshire.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The two slaughterhouses continue to provide a fully adequate service not only to the town but also to a considerable area around. With the closure of the abattoir at Stamford much of the work formerly carried out there came to Bourne.

There are few, if any, in the Food Business who are not fully aware of the Food Hygiene Regulations and do not implement the Code of Practice based thereon. Nevertheless, it is all too easy for an overlooked hitch to occur in the operational procedure. For example unless fly proofing is extremely good pastries and pies can be at risk during cooking process or whilst on display. Food on display is often protected within glass or polythene shelves. Here undesirably high temperatures can build up particularly if the display cabinet is in the sun. It is in drawing attention to such hazards and any other snags which may arise that the Health Inspector plays such a very important preventive role. He and the owners certainly have their work cut out for them on the market stalls on a sunny summer day when the insect world is on the wing!

There is a strong case to be made out for the registration of all food premises, as then a comprehensive list would be available in the event of a Food Poisoning outbreak or in the need to trace any food items under suspicion. Mr. Hawley, Chief Weights and Measures Inspector of the County in his valuable and always interesting contribution to this report revealed that twenty samples were taken under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act 1955.

They were as follows:-

Christmas Pudding	1
Coffee	1
Meat Products	1
Milk	13
Preserves	2
Soft Drinks	1
Yoghourt	1

Although Kesteven is not primarily a milk producing County, it does nevertheless, produce very good milk; mostly for domestic consumption. While there is always a variation in the quality of mornings and evenings' milk due to the unequal interval between successive milking it is the average that counts. This must not be less than 3% of butter fat and 8.5% of other solids.

In the case of Channel Island type milk the butter fat must not be less than 4%. The dairy man is encouraged to produce better quality milk under the compositional quality scheme. Under this the Milk Marketing Board adds or subtracts from the price according to whether it is above or below the National norm of 12 per cent total solids.

The average of the samples taken were well above the National norm.

Once during this year a complaint was received regarding the quality of milk sold from a Cafe in the town. This sample on analysis was found to contain 5.4% butter fat and 8.9% other solids - well above the statutory minimum of 3% fat and 8.5% other solids.

Artificial sweeteners have been much in the news culminating in the ban on use of cyclamates in this Country following on similar action in North America and Scandinavia.

Mr. Hawley comments on this subject are as follows:-

' The British Public's acquaintance with cyclamates is comparatively short-lived, for it was only two years ago that the Food Additives and Contaminants Committee gave cautious approval to these highly complex substances. Their approval led to the Artificial Sweeteners in Food Regulations 1967. Now, as from 1st January, 1970, the use of cyclamat sweeteners in food and soft drinks has been

banned. A "volte face" is always something of a jolt, but not everyone will know that the committee which approved the use of cyclamates in 1967 did say that any Regulations permitting their use should be reviewed within 5 years and that, in the meantime, long-term feeding studies on rats and mice should be undertaken by the Ministry. Furthermore, the committee advised that a full toxicological examination of cyclohexylamine (the carcinogenous suspect in cyclamates) should be completed within 3 years. While it is disturbing, therefore, to know that modern methods of food 'sophistication' introduce these hazards, it is also reassuring to find that such care is taken to limit their incidence.

Saccharin continues as a permitted artificial sweetener, but it must now be declared on the label by name and not under the pseudonym of "permitted artificial sweetener". Apart from the trading interests, the persons who will be most concerned by these changes are the diabetic and the obese, for both of whom saccharin may be an unwelcome alternative. Saccharin is a coal-tar derivative which enjoys comparative immunity from criticism, but it has an after-taste which many people find unpleasant. It is, however, a very much better sweetener, for it is 500 times as sweet as sugar (bulk for bulk) whereas cyclamates are only about 30 times as sweet.'

I would like to thank Mr. Hawley and his staff for all their ready help and courtesy during another year.

An unusual complaint this year was one emanating from Bourne Chest Hospital when a three inch copper staple was found in a loaf of bread supplied by a Lincoln baker. In this case the bakery manager recognised the staple as a pin from one of the dough conveyors which had, he recalled, been repaired just a few days before the complaint was made. The County Council took the view that insufficient care had been taken to avoid this sort of contretemps and instituted legal proceedings. The firm pleaded 'guilty' and was fined £20 0s. Od.

Apart from the samples above mentioned which were examined for this chemical composition a further five samples of pasteurised milk were submitted to the Methylene Blue and Phosphate tests which are a measurement of their bacterial state and of the efficiency of the pasteurisation process respectively. These were found to be satisfactory. Two samples of unheated milk were subjected to the Methylene Blue test and were also examined for Tubercle Baccilli, Brucellosis and Antibiotics. The results of these proved to be satisfactory.

Though the sale of milk from cows which have had local penicillin or other antibiotic treatment of the udder is illegal within forty eight hours of the termination of such treatment yet it does occur. In the series of 4136 milk samples taken at a large dairy which supplied part of the pasteurised milk in this area, twenty six contained antibiotic traces and pasteurisation does not remove it if it is present.

Milk is of such paramount importance as a food for the young, the elderly and the invalid that every effort is made to safeguard it from contamination from any source whatever. Unfortunately it is prone to several hazards and one of these is infection with brucellic organism coming from cows which have had contagious abortion. The same organisms can cause undulant fever in man. In last year's report mention was made of such an infected milk being discovered in Bourne and the action taken. The herd was cleared but only after nearly 500 samples were taken. A further one hundred and forty three samples were subsequently investigated to try and ensure that all the cows remained clear. In spite of the full co-operation of the dairy farmer, the Veterinary services and the Health Departments organisms were once again discovered in the milk in the course of delivery. Soon after this the dairyman went out of business. This indicates the extreme difficulty of eradicating Brucellosis from herd and premises when it is firmly established, and control work with this herd had continued over a period of ten years! This also highlights the other respected point that only a pasteurised milk is a safe milk from a brucella free point of view. May it be added that it is very wise to be sure that the cream taken with fruit or dessert is heat treated also as more than enough have paid twice for their 'farmhouse' teas! In the meantime the Government proceeds in a leisurely way to deal with the problem on a voluntary basis. There were no pesticidal residues found in the four milk samples examined for them, but it is nevertheless highly gratifying that the Government have decided to ban D.D.T. from general use in agriculture and horticulture.

In like the earlier banned Aldrin and Dieldrin is a member of the Chlorinated Hydrocarbon groups of pesticides which are infamous for their persistancy, remaining for many, many, years in the soil after being used. If taken up in herbage by cows they are concentrated in the milk and when this is turned into butter they are concentrated once more. Once ingested by the human it is stored in the fat and tissues. On average human fat in this Country contains 4 parts per million and in America it is much higher still. The fish in the sea and the birds in the air have all acquired it in a world wide way. Incidentally it was only discovered during the last war in the search of a poisonous chemical to put the enemy out of action. It has still a useful part to play in the control of disease carrying insects in under-developed countries but not for indiscriminate use in the West. Strangely enough it was less than a year ago that the Food Additives and Contaminants Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture were assuring us that in none of the food samples taken in this country were anything near the recognised danger limits!

The watch on the safety of our food is one which must not be relaxed and none of these additives can be taken for granted, for in the light of experience and prolonged usage initial declarations of their safety may have to be modified. As already mentioned it happened with the Cyclamates and has also occurred with the artificial red colouring additive Ponceau 4.R. It has now been withdrawn from use. The close co-operation between this Health Department and the Food and Drugs Authority is a strong point in the defence of our safety.

It is illogical surely, that while every effort is made to ensure clean milk production, efficient pasteurisation and scrupulous cleanliness at the bottling plant and on its journey until it eventually arrives at the customers' door - here in its container it is put at ground level

where it is prey to every passing dog, wandering cat and maraudering bird looking for a spot!

HOUSING

Number of Council Houses at 31st December, 1969	597
Number of Council Houses built during the year ended 31st December, 1969	NIL
Number of Council Houses in course of construction at 31st December, 1969	25
Number of Private Houses built during the year	60
Number of Improvement Grants given (Discretionary and Standard)	11
Number on waiting list for Council Houses	83
Number on this list needing Old Peoples' accommodation or bungalows	44

For the third year in succession no new Council Houses or flats were constructed but at least at the year's end twenty five flatlets were being built.

Private enterprise did much better with sixty houses completed in the year compared with forty five in 1968. The high interest and mortgage rates continue to dampen down activity in the house building field though the potential demand is higher than ever.

The Council continue to operate a Points Scheme in the allocation of their houses which allows a considerable degree of priority to be given to those in need on Health or Socio-Medical grounds. On receiving a request for priority from the person concerned or on his behalf from Medical sources or any of the Social or Welfare agencies a full investigation is carried out into the circumstances, the medical condition is, with the persons consent, assessed with the family doctor and a domiciliary visit is paid by the writer. Only after this is a report and recommendation made to the Health and Housing Committees and their support has always been forthright and sympathetic in deserving cases. This is just the sort of procedure which the Seehoem Committee have advocated and the lack of which justified some of their criticisms. Here it has been done for many years past.

During the year there were twenty two applications for rehousing or transfer of accommodation for Health or Socio Medical reasons.

There is no slum clearance problem in Bourne but individual houses must be expected to decline gradually into this category. During the year eleven Improvement Grants were awarded - two more than in 1968 - and so a further quota of houses were saved from destruction and given a further lease of many years life as comfortable homes. It is regrettable that more owners of suitable properties do not come forward with plans for safeguarding their future at a price much less than would be the cost of building from scratch. Never were Grants more generous and financially attractive.

The number on the waiting list for Council accommodation has declined from 93 to 83 in the past twelve months. This decline is dictated more by the realisation of the long wait than by any inherent lack of demand. Of the 83 no fewer than 44 required elderly persons dwellings or 53 per cent. The insistant call for this type of accommodation continues unabated and is likely to do so for a long time to come.

The sample census taken in 1966 estimated that in the year 1968 there would be 483 males and 398 females a total of 881 over the age of 65 living in Bourne. This figure is very relevant for planning purposes. Accordingly it is most pleasing to record that the twenty five units under construction consist of 14 flatlets for elderly single persons and 10 for elderly couples or those qualifying through physical incapacity; and a Wardens House. These will be an encrmous asset to add to the resources at Worth Court which have proved so popular and such a boon. On completion this will make a total of forty six flatlets in the two Grouped Schemes. In the success of this scheme the Warden plays a vital and rewarding part, turning what could be a collection of flatlets and individuals into a warm Community. What a blessing they are to those who might otherwise be lonely or in need. As a fact of ageing and as inescapable is the fact that stairs become more and more demanding on the elderly. The degenerative diseases such as arthritis, failing heart function and poor sight, particularly in focusing, take their toll and giddiness often is a factor too. For all who suffer from these, ground floor accommodation is really the only safe answer.

One of the greatest needs of the elderly is warmth, for hypothermia from a cold environment can be deadly to them. With this in mind it is gratifying that consideration is being given to providing some form of space heating to overcome the coldness of the Harrington Street bungalows.

Condensation is a problem in council and privately owned houses alike. The experts tell us that the answer is to open the windows and ensure adequate ventilation. However true this may be in theory few would care to proffer the advice with freezing of, or other inclement weather outside. Admiral Byrd after a spell in the Antarctic was once asked what his coldest experience had been. To the surprise of the interviewers he replied it was a night he had spent in an English bedroom! It would appear we have a lot to learn, still, about keeping houses warm, though space heating has been a big step forward in that respect.

Of the seventy seven Council Houses at the end of last year which were without hot water systems a further fourteen in George Street, have been modernised.

This still leaves sixty three situated as follows:-

George Street 12 - for which a scheme has been prepared
and Harrington Street - 51

The work of modernisation is going forward as quickly as money and man power permit.

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the town.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

An elderly female recluse who lived alone was known to be at risk but she refused all offers of help. Eventually the Police, had to break in, alarmed by the uncollected milk bottles and no reply to their knocking. Her family doctor was called but was unable to persuade her to go to hospital of which she was obviously in need. She was found in heart failure and suffering from malnutrition and hypothermia but adamantly refused all advise and persuasion. Action, therefore, had to be taken under Section 47 of this act to remove her against her will, under a Magistrates Order.

The room in which she was living had every available square foot cluttered with rags, rugs, scraps of food and the accumulations of many months. In the adjoining larder the conditions were no better. The atmosphere was heavy with the "CAT", of which there were seven or eight. In the hall were over a dozen milk bottles full but bad in some cases.

Up to the end she remained completely unco-operative and protested against the cruelty of being removed from her own home against her wishes and physically obstructed her removal by making it as difficult and unpleasant for those charged with the task as she could; and as there was no free spot to place the stretcher anywhere in the room she had considerable scope! She was conveyed to Hospital, where unfortunately she died the next day.

A case such as this always leads to heart searching as to to the point at which intervention should be made; provided they are not interfering with the rights and health of others, when an individual is bitterly opposed to it and yet is living in squalor. Certain it is that when they are as adamant as in this instance they rarely settle and survive after "Force Majeur" has been used.

Health Education

The Council give financial support to the Health Education Council and also to the Society for the Prevention of Accidents and in return received and display their posters and make use of the other health propaganda material which is provided. During the year a Seminar was held for the Medical and Nursing Staffs. This was arranged jointly by the Local Health Authority and the Health Education Council and the subject was Smoking, Abuse of Drugs and Venereal Disease. It certainly dealt with subjects very much in the limelight of Contemporary affairs.

The drug problem is a great one with the incidence increasing and the age of those involved getting less; many being in their teens. Health Educators have a very important role to play in the prevention of this social evil. Young people must be left in no doubt as to the dangers and hazards associated with drug taking and an appeal must be addressed to their sense of social and personal responsibility rather than playing on fear. The opinion of Youth itself should be moulded against the habit as the young are more likely to listen to those in their own age group than to those in an older one.

The responsibility of Health Education is not alone to inform but to so convince the person at whom it is aimed that he will see its relevancy for himself and behave differently as a result.

There was no formal Dental Health Education campaign this year but Mr. Parsons, School Dental Officer says:-

"It would appear that the Dental Health Education course of 1968 has had some effect, possibly a marked one, but this is statistically difficult to show. It would seem, however, from routine inspections that the oral hygiene of children in the eight plus Age Group has improved radically".

COMMENTARY

Loneliness is a common social problem in town and country alike and often occurs right under the noses of those who unsuspectingly or uninquiringly pass by; intent on their own affairs. It manifests itself in apathy and dejection due to lack of companionship and results in a deterioration in mental and physical health. It often stems from the loss of a loved spouse and the emptiness which follows bereavement or it may be the result of a temperamental inability or difficulty in making contact with other human beings leading to isolation.

Whatever the cause, loneliness can produce a sombre picture of unhappiness, misery, withdraw from the community, malnutrition and the extinguishing of joie de vivre. There are many organisations and individuals who would be delighted to help such unfortunates if they

knew how. It is part of their illness, rejection and state of mind to resent what they regard as interference and all offers of help. A continuing effort is needed to seek out all such individuals who are "At Risk" and endeavour to persuade them to avail themselves of all the social and welfare facilities which exist. Once they have shut their door in the face of all visitors the battle has been lost and their condition is parlous. Over the years, including this one, Bourne has had its share of such problems. Adequate planning for retirement and this involves a definite facing up to it ten years before the event is another positive step which can make for happiness and a full life.

Pesticides have been much in the news with the banning from general use of D.D.T. It must be clearly understood that all pesticides are by their nature and usage necessarily poisonous to the pests against which they are used. Some are poisonous to humans and to animals and the greatest care in their use, storage and disposal should be obligatory. Though the Public are protected by the Pesticides Safety Precaution scheme and the Agricultural Chemicals Approval scheme it is still up to each individual to safeguard himself from harm by following these rules:

1. READ THE LABEL and observe especially the dosage rates recommended and the safety precautions and follow them rigorously.
 2. Handle all pesticides with care and store both full and partly used containers out of the reach of children.
 3. Keep pesticides away from pets, including fish.
 4. Wash out containers, watering cans, etc., thoroughly after using pesticides and avoid washings draining into waterways, ditches and ponds. Nor should they be put in the drains or sewers as they can have adverse effects on the sewage disposal works, and like bacteria they go through the works and out in the final effluent to the waterways.
 5. Dispose of used containers safely by thoroughly washing out whenever possible and place them in a dustbin.
 6. Wash immediately after using pesticides.
-

Complaints of Noise have been made and investigated on a number of occasions and unwanted sounds do give rise to much heart burning. There are no statutory limits on sound as measured in Decibels which makes preventive action very difficult but it is generally agreed and was included in the Wilson Report (1968) on Noise that 75 decibels should not be exceeded in an urban

area measured at the nearest point to an occupied building. To give an idea of what this is the following table compares the sound levels in familiar situations:

<u>Familiar Sounds</u>	<u>Sound level in Decibels</u>
Jet aircraft taking off	120
Very noisy machine shop	100
Pneumatic Concrete breaker (unmuffled) at 50 feet	85
Pneumatic Concrete breaker (muffled) at 50 feet	65
Average conversation	65
Quiet Office	50
Public Library	40

Suffice it to say that in the main those who create noise do their best to co-operate in reducing it, but much more research into and attention to sound proofing will be needed in future and much more stringent safeguards at Planning level should be de rigueur if noise nuisance is to be kept within bounds in our mechanised society, and presbycusis (relative deafness to sounds of high frequency and a process of ageing accelerated by too much noise) is to be kept to a minimum.

The Wilson recommendations also state that in a situation such as Bourne 45 decibels within a house by day and 35 by night should be the highest permissible limits. In Scandinavian Countries those who permit a level in excess of 40 decibels inside a house with closed windows can be prosecuted. We still have a long way to go to meet such desirable standards. The thoughtless banging of gates car and other doors, and the revving of engines during the sleeping hours of the great majority can also be potent causes of avoidable annoyance.

During the year a school boy doing spare time work accidentally lost several fingers in a bacon slicer. At routine medical examinations the writer has seen two or three similar mutilations from a like cause in children of school age. It is obvious that the Law on this matter is either not fully understood or that responsible people are unaware of it. No one under the age of eighteen years should be permitted to use a bacon slider and default on this carries legal penalties as well as the risk of lost digits.

There are at present over 3000 known additives to our food and these are kept under constant review for safety and side effects. One of these a red colouring agent Ponceau X was withdrawn

as there was a *prima facie* case for regarding it as potentially dangerous. Cyclamates as artificial sweeteners were declared to be quite safe in the permitted amounts but these have now been banned because of allegations of toxic effects on laboratory animals. Saccharin continues to be a permitted artificial sweetener and recourse will still have to be made to it for diabetics and those on weight reducing regimes.

The "sweet tooth" in many ways is at a great health disadvantage for more and more dietician are warning against over indulgence in the use of ordinary (cane) sugar as being detrimental to health and it has long been utterly condemned by Dental Surgeons for its corrosive effects on teeth.

Instead of being a naturally occurring product, were it a new discovery it might be surmised that the Dunlop Committee for Safety of Drugs would put it on the restricted list in the light of what is known about it. Alas as someone complained, so many of the things we like are either illegal, detrimental to health or fattening.

The Meals on Wheels Scheme is run by the W.R.V.S. of Bourne under the direction of Mrs A. Wherry their Centre Supervisor and Mrs Webb, Centre Secretary. I am indebted to them for their comments:

"This service runs smoothly and regularly. In spite of the severe winter, no one went without their meals on Wednesdays and Fridays. There are twenty five recipients of these meals and during the year 1896 meals were served. During the Summer holiday, Mrs A. Wherry supplied these meals. All those receiving meals received a splendid grocery parcel for Christmas". Many other services are done for the elderly or the needy of the town by various voluntary and philanthropic societies in Bourne. These are too many and diverse to be mentioned but they speak loudly of the virtues of compassion for and willingness to help the less fortunate in our midst. Long may such attributes flourish.

After serving the Community so well since its foundation the Voluntary Laundry Service started through the initiative of Mrs Hibbitt seemed likely to be coming to an end. The work is very worthy of mention and thanks on behalf of the many who benefitted from it.

The Council's booklet "A Guide to Services for the Elderly" was first produced in 1960 and through the good offices of successive Managers of the Local Offices of the Ministry of Pensions later the Ministry of Health and Social Security, it was widely distributed. This was achieved by placing a copy in the Pension documents of each person as they reached pensionable age. With the centralisation of this Ministry on Peterborough this method of distribution has had to be ended. This is just another foretaste of the utilitarian uniformity which will come to pass at the bottom of Maud's many acres garden.

The Co-Ordinating Committee for the Welfare of Children at Risk and the Co-Ordinating Committee for the Welfare of the Elderly were founded so that communication between those working in these respective fields could be improved and appropriate help more quickly canalised to where it was required. These were precisely the deficiencies for which Seeböhm recommended a reorganisation of the Social Welfare Services and which had they been general might well have met with criticism. Certainly these Committees do foster a team spirit and allow individual cases and problems to be discussed in a spirit of co-operation around a table. Where all are keen to find a practical solution it is usual to find a way. This has been the general experience throughout the seven years in which they have been meeting regularly. Serving one or both are representatives of the Department of Health and Social Security, the District Welfare Officer, the Home Help Organiser, the Health Visitors, the Housing Officers, the Meals on Wheels Organiser, the Consultant Physician to the Peterborough and Stamford Hospital Group, a family doctor, the Matron of the Hospital for the Chronic sick and elderly, Stamford, the Health Inspectors, the Mental Welfare Officer, the Probation Officer, the School Welfare Officer, the Special Services Officer of the Local Education Authority, the N.S.P.C.C. Inspector, the Headmaster of Stubton Special School, the District Children's Officer, the Clerk of Bourne Urban District Council and the writer. During the year four cases from Bourne were dealt with by the 'Children's Brains Trust' and eight by that for the Elderly.

It was pleasing to see that at the end of the year the site works for the Bourne Health Centre had been commenced. There could have been no better way of marking the "Coming of Age" of the National Health Service. It will carry still further the integration of the Family Doctors and Local Health Authority Services which is in fact part of what the successive Green Papers on the future development of the Health Services have been about. Bourne will again lead the way in having the first of these Health Centres to be built in KESTEVEN.

Youth is growing up in a Society which has become ever more permissive on the one hand and yet is subjected to an avalanche of restrictive legislation on the other. 130 New Acts of the Realm and over 4,500 new Regulations have crowded the Statute Book in the past three years alone.

Science and Materialism have instructed them to believe only in what they can see and prove. This challenges so much that was formerly the Best of Life. The Embryologist is claiming to be able to produce human life in a test tube and to be able to produce a hybrid between human and avian cells. Manipulation of human life and environment tends to breed insecurity.

Our Youth are subjected to great pressures and over stimulation in a highly competitive and changing world. Is it any wonder that some are in revolt? They need our deep sympathy and understanding in their dilemmas; for their potentialities never were greater given the right leadership.

Bourne in its peaceful setting and breathing pure air is lucky at a time when environmental pollution is the source of so much anxiety. The Council are determined to do all that lies within their powers to maintain these blessings and not hand on a vitiated legacy to their children.

In drawing this report to a close I want to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued support and encouragement. I wish to thank Mr. Thompson for his full co-operation throughout the year, and also to thank Mr. Mason, Mr. Silverwood and Mr. Jordan for their unstinted help over the same period and my other colleagues on the staff for their friendliness and wholehearted co-operation at all times.

I wish to extend a warm welcome to Miss Kay D'Arcy in her secretarial role in the Department and to acknowledge gratefully the vital part she has played in producing this Review.

Finally I wish to thank Dr. C. W. Sweetnam for so kindly standing by for me when I have been away.

H. ELLIS-SMITH

Medical Officer of Health

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
for the Year 1969

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of Bourne.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my fourth annual report covering the work of the department for the year 1969.

PART I - HOUSING

Action in respect of unfit housing continued during the year; although it was found necessary to use the Council's statutory powers to impose a Demolition Order only once in the period under review. This case concerned a small wooden dwelling situated at the rear of the cinema which was so badly affected with dampness and condensation as to render it unfit for human habitation and incapable of being made fit at reasonable expense.

During the latter part of the year, a survey of all the housing in the town was carried out, and provisional list of possible slum clearance property to be dealt with over the next four years was made up. This list comprises of some ten dwellings.

Other complaints of housing defects have been remedied without recourse to the Council's statutory powers.

Erection of New Dwellings

It was very gratifying during 1969, to see the commencement in West Street of the Council's grouped elderly persons dwelling scheme, which will, when completed, provide excellent accommodation facilities for our Senior Citizens, and also the decision to build further elderly persons bungalows at the rear of Queen's Road. At the time of writing this report the scheme is now well under way and should prove to be another valuable addition to the Council's stock of dwellings.

Private residential development continues to expand on the various sites within the town and it is very pleasing to record that the number of houses completed during the year was 61; 15 more than in 1968 and 75 were under construction at the end of the year, as against 35 at the end of 1968.

Improvement Grants

Details of Standard and Discretionary Improvement Grants dealt with by the Council in 1969 are set out in appendix B of this report.

The year under review was something of a milestone in the story of house improvement. At the heart of a massive Government drive to encourage people to improve their property was the Housing Act 1969 which came into force during August. The Act made improvement grants of all kinds more attractive to house holders and for the first time empowered local authorities to give grants towards major repair. The effect of this Act is being felt already with many more people taking an interest in it and seeking advice on house improvement; and I feel sure that the number of grants approved will show a considerable increase during 1970 - the first full year of operation of the new Act.

Another significant innovation in the new Act is the availability of grants to local authorities for environmental improvement of blocks of properties, to make peoples surroundings more attractive to live in. This, together with the improvement of properties themselves should make a real contribution to both the mental and physical wellbeing of people who live in older properties.

Moveable Dwellings

There are two licenced caravan sites in the Urban District containing two and one caravans respectively.

The licence for one of the sites expired in June 1969, but after a successful appeal to the Ministry, the licence was renewed until 1974. The licence for the other site expires in 1970. Both sites are regularly inspected and are both satisfactory.

As in previous years, 1969 saw the frequent appearance of 'travellers' on verges and lay-bys in the district. They invariably moved on after a short stay. One of the major problems caused by these people is the litter they leave in their wake and I fear that this problem will be with us until the full effects of the Caravan Sites Act 1968 are felt and more local authorities provide properly equipped sites for these people.

PART II FOOD INSPECTION AND HYGIENE

a) Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection

There are two licenced slaughterhouses in the Urban District, both of which are owned by Messrs. T. W. Mays & Sons Ltd. There are, however, poultry processing establishments.

(i) Eastgate Abattoir

This is the principal slaughterhouse and dead-weight grading centre for Bourne and the surrounding district. With the closure of Stamford slaughterhouse in July 1968, most of the Stamford butchers looked to Bourne for their slaughtering facilities and as a result, the throughput of Eastgate Abattoir has considerably increased. Fortunately this extra throughput has not overloaded the facilities at the abattoir and after some re-organisation is being operated satisfactorily.

(ii) Klondyke Abattoir

This small abattoir, situated off West Road caters exclusively for the slaughter of casualty stock from farms, and the slaughter of horses for export to Belgium for human consumption. The throughput of this abattoir is very sporadic and causes little concern from a hygiene point of view. I would point out however, that although it satisfies English slaughterhouse legislation, it falls short of the standards required by the Common Market Countries for export slaughterhouses, and must be considered to have a limited life as a horse slaughtering centre.

The statistics covering slaughtering, meat inspection and the amount of meat surrendered as being unfit for human consumption are set out in appendices C, D, and E of this report.

The quality of stock slaughtered has again been maintained at a high level during the year; with very little serious disease being encountered. One case of a localized infestation of cysticercus bovis was found during the year, and the carcase was consigned for refrigeration treatment before being released for human consumption. No cases of bovine tuberculosis were found. One still sees, however, fairly frequently the avian type in pigs. This type of tuberculosis is much less serious than the bovine and human types, as humans have a very high natural resistance to it, and it is usually only found in localized lesions in the carcase. Of the ten pig carcases which were condemned during the year 50 per cent were due to sysentic pyaemic infection caused by tail biting. As I mentioned in my last annual report this is prevalent throughout the country and bears a direct relationship to the increased use of intensive rearing of pigs. The answer to the problem continues to elude the expert and I feel that the problem will be with us for some considerable time.

As in previous years regular visits to the abattoirs in the town have been made by the Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Mr. J. M. Gilmour and I would like to record my appreciation of his congenial help and advice extended to me during his visits and inspections.

(b) Food and Drugs Act 1955

(i) Knackeryard . - The Slipe

This knackeryard, owned and operated by T. W. Mays & Sons Ltd. was licenced for a further period of twelve months. Regular inspections have been made and the premises have been maintained and operated satisfactorily.

(ii) Milk Supplies - Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963

Milk was supplied throughout the Urban District by the following retailers.

M. Bradshaw - Supplied by Pinchbeck Dairies Ltd.
D. & G. Clarey, West Road - Supplied by Pinchbeck Dairies Ltd.
Peterborough & District Co-operative Society - Own Dairies
H. Moisey & Sons, Meadowgate - Supplied by Pinchbeck Dairies Ltd.

Four samples of milk were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory by Bourne Urban District Council for statutory and biological examination and six were submitted by the Kesteven County Council.

The table in appendix F gives the details of the results of these examinations.

One sample of untreated milk gave an unsatisfactory milk ring test result from brucellosis. However, the milk was produced outside the area of this authority so the necessary information was passed to the relevant authority for any action they considered necessary.

(iii) Bacteriological Ice Cream Sampling

Eighteen samples of ice cream, all from national producers were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination.

The table in appendix G gives the details of the results of these examinations.

(iv) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960
Food Hygiene (Market Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966

The following are details of premises to which the above Regulations apply:-

Trade carried on	No. of Premises	No. of washbasins	No. requiring facilities for washing food and equipment	No. with facilities for washing food and equipment
Sweets and Confectionery	6	6	6	4
Bakehouses	2	2	1	1
Butchers	7	7	7	7
Grocers and General	18	18	18	18
Greengrocers	6	6	6	6
Wet Fish Shops	1	1	1	1
Fried Fish Shops	2	2	2	2
Cafes and Restaurants	6	6	6	6
Food Warehouses	2	2	1	1
Registered Clubs	5	5	5	5
Licenced Premises	13	13	13	13
School Canteens	3	3	3	3
Stalls and Mobile Shops	15	15	4	4

The following contraventions were notified to occupiers.

Lack of wash-hand notices in toilets	4
Unsatisfactory toilet accommodation (inc. repair, decoration, lighting and ventilation)	2
Unsatisfactory decoration of food rooms	1
Exposure of food to risk of contamination	3
Lack of washing facilities on Stalls	2
Lack of name and address on stalls	3
Inadequate first aid equipment of stalls	5
Inadequate washing facilities on stalls	4

(v) Registration

Manufacture of sausages and preserved food	-	7
Sale and storage for sale of ice cream	-	26

(vi) Watercress Beds

There are two commercial watercress beds being operated in the Urban District; they are situated at:-

- a) Wellhead Bourne - Operated by South Lincolnshire Water Board
- b) South Road Bourne - Operated by Hereward Watercress Ltd.

No changes were effected during the year and both are operated in a satisfactory manner.

(vii) The Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966

There are about eight market stalls and seven mobile shops etc. in the Urban District, to which the above Regulations apply.

Most of contraventions found during routine inspections were of a minor nature and soon remedied.

Of the seven mobile shops operating from within the district four are butchers vans, one is a greengrocer, one a general dealer selling only pre-packed good, and a mobile fish and chip shop.

Part III - Environmental Health

a) Water Supplies

Mains water is supplied throughout the Urban District by the South Lincolnshire Water Board. There are also eleven private bores in the district serving a total of 25 properties. Regular bacteriological samples are taken by the Water Board from the Bourne Pumping Station in Manning Road and also from various points of distribution throughout the town.

During the year, forty samples of water from private supplies were submitted by this authority to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. These samples covered all eleven bores.

Unsatisfactory sample results emanated from only one bore during the year. The trouble was found to be caused by a faulty header tank cover allowing ingress of vegetable matter, birds etc. The tank was thoroughly flushed and cleaned and the cover repaired. Subsequent samples proved to be satisfactory.

Detailed results of samples taken by the Bourne Urban District Council are set out in Appendix H.

So far as is known only 10 houses are supplied from stand pipes, five of which are unoccupied. The population affected is 14 out of a total estimated population of 5810.

b) Swimming Pool - Abbey Road

The Abbey Road Swimming Pool owned and operated by the Bourne United Charities continued

to operate during the Summer of 1969. In the early part of 1969 extensive repair work to the base of the pool was carried out to alleviate the heavy leakage which became apparent during 1968.

Extensive sampling of the pool water was carried out during the season with weekly visits being made. The table in Appendix I tabulates the results of these samples.

The long hot summer of 1969 brought a record number of people to the pool, estimated to be 25% higher than the previous best. Unfortunately it very soon became obvious that the present filtering and pumping plant were completely unable to deal with such a prolonged heavy load and caused extreme difficulties in maintaining satisfactory bacteriological conditions in the pool water. It is doubly unfortunate that although the pool is beautifully situated and is a very pleasant place to be during hot weather, attracting so many people from outside the town, that one cannot provide the ideal bathing conditions to match up to its surroundings and general appeal.

Of the 36 samples taken during the season, only 19 showed a plate count of less than ten; a percentage of only 53% - against the recommended standard of 75%.

c) Public Health Laboratory Service

The Council have again been fortunate in having the facilities of the Public Health Laboratory at the Peterborough and District Memorial Hospital available for pathological, biological and bacteriological examinations of samples. I would like to place on record my thanks and appreciation to Dr. Glencross and his staff for their continued help and advice during the year.

d) Public Cleansing

i) Refuse Collection

The refuse collection is carried out by one specialized vehicle and a very conscientious crew. In the late summer of 1969 the vehicle was returned to the makers for an extensive overhaul. Since then its efficiency has increased there is comparatively little trouble from it, and a 7 day collection is being maintained. However, with the increased demands being made upon it due to the continual residential development; periods of bad weather and bank holidays cause such congestion of work that it is necessary to press the Council's lorry into service to help clear the backlog.

ii) Refuse Disposal

As previously, the controlled tipping of refuse has continued in the old railway cutting

off West Road.

The tip itself caused few problems during the year. Rats and flies were kept to a minimum by regular inspection and treatment. The biggest problem, however, has been that of fire. During the dry part of the year the tip has been continually on fire. While this helps in consolidating the tip it makes working conditions most uncomfortable and could cause inconvenience to residents of the nearby housing estate if the wind was blowing from the south west. At one time during the year, conditions were so bad that it was necessary to call the Fire Brigade to the tip.

Street gully cleansing, carried out under contract, was carried out twice during the year.

d) General Sanitation

General complaints totalled fifty during the year. All were investigated and all were remedied without recourse to the authorities statutory powers.

Most of the complaints were of a straightforward nature, comprising of housing defects and general nuisances such as smell, smoke nuisances and noise nuisances. There were no serious complaints arising from pig-keeping activities

e) Public Conveniences

Two blocks of public conveniences are provided by the Council - in South Street near the Market Place and also on the Recreation Ground.

f) Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

Work under the above Act has proceeded satisfactorily during the year in the capable hands of the Council's Rodent Operator Mr. A. E. Baker.

There were, during the year, a total of 134 complaints of rat and mouse infestation and 24 complaints of infestation by wasps, beetles, ants, moles etc. There were 27 more notified cases of rat and mouse infestation than in 1968. The table in Appendix J gives fuller details of rat and mouse infestation in the district during 1969.

In addition to the treatment of notified infestations, regular surveys in more isolated areas helped to ensure that there were no untreated rat colonies capable of re-infesting cleared farm properties etc.

Rodent Control is one of those local authority services which only comes to the general public's attention when something goes wrong. We are indeed fortunate in having such a capable and conscientious operator as Mr. Baker who even in the busiest time during the winter is able to commence treatment usually within 24 hours of notification. It would be wrong to say that Bourne had no problem with rodents, but thanks to prompt attention to notifications and thorough survey and treatment, this problem has been kept well in hand. This happy state of affairs, however, will only continue with the active help and co-operation of farmers in particular, in either carrying out proper treatment quickly by early notification to the Council of any rats on their land.

Rodent control by the local authority is a free service for domestic properties and the charges made for business premises, farms etc is very reasonable. In addition supplies of poison can be obtained from the Council for persons wishing to carry out their own treatment.

g) Clean Air Acts 1956 & 1968

In a principally rural area such as Bourne with its open aspect, there is little need at present to control the emission of domestic smoke and the Council declared no smoke control areas.

Regular observations were made on chimneys of industrial boilers and furnaces in the area; and it is pleasing to record that on very few occasions were emissions noted which contravened the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations 1956. Where these were noted, it was brought to the attention of the occupiers and remedial work was carried out.

h) Factories Act 1961

The table in Appendix L shows details of the implementation of this legislation during 1969.

i) Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

The table in Appendix J shows details of the implementation of this legislation during 1969.

It is pleasing to record that all defects found were of a minor nature and soon remedied informally.

There were two accidents notified to the authority during the year. In one case a girl slipped on some stairs while carrying packages; and in the second case a youth badly injured a hand whilst attempting to clean a bacon slicing machine. In the latter case, the Council decided to institute legal proceedings against the firm concerned under Section 18 of the Offices Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963. The firm pleaded guilty and were fined £100.

j) Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare) Act 1956

Inspections made for purposes of Act	17
Unsatisfactory Sanitary Accommodation	0
Number of premises subject to Act	61

k) Petroleum (Regulation) Acts 1928-1936

Thirty one premises were licenced in 1969 for the storage of petroleum spirit. A total of approximately 36,000 gallons were stored under licence, and the fees totalled £89.

All premises have been inspected and are all satisfactory.

l) Pet Animals Act 1951, Animal Boarding Est. Act 1963

Two pet shops and one boarding kennel were licenced for a further twelve months. All have been regularly inspected and are satisfactory.

Conclusion

In bringing my report to a close, I would like to acknowledge the invaluable help and advice I have received from Dr. H. Ellis Smith, Mr. M. Silverwood and his staff and Mr. F. Mason and his staff. I would also like to record my appreciation for the consideration shown to me by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and by the Chairman and Members of the Council.

A. Thompson

Public Health Inspector

APPENDIX A

HOUSES	IN	Number of houses represented	-
	CLEARANCE	Number of houses demolished	-
	AREAS	Persons displaced	-
		Families displaced	-
DEMOLISHED	NOT IN	Number of houses represented	-
	CLEARANCE	Number of houses demolished	1
	AREAS	Persons displaced	1
		Families displaced	-
UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED	-	Number of houses	1
		Persons displaced	3
		Families displaced	1
UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT		After informal action by Local Authority	6
		After formal notice by Public Health Act:-	
		by owner	-
		by Local Authority	-
		After formal notice Housing Act:-	
		by owner	-
		by Local Authority	-

(i)

APPENDIX B

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

(1) Standard Grants

1. Number of applications	(a) Owner/Occupiers 8 Approved 8 Refused -	
2. Number of dwellings improved	(b) Tenanted houses 2 Approved 2 Refused -	
3. Amount paid in grants	(a) Owner/Occupiers 3 (b) Tenanted 4 £821 12s. 10d.	
4. Average grant per house	£117 7s. 6d.	
5. Amenities provided:-		
	(a) Fixed bath	4
	(b) Shower	-
	(c) Wash-hand basin	5
	(d) Hot water supply (to any fittings)	7
	(e) Watercloset (1) within the dwelling	3
	(2) accessible from the dwelling	-
	(f) Sink	-
	(g) Foodstore	4

(2) Discretionary Grants

1. Number of applications approved	5
2. Number of applications refused	-
3. Amount paid in grants	£2051 10s. 0d.
4. Number of dwellings improved:-	
(a) Owner/Occupier	3
(b) Tenanted	2

APPENDIX C

Details of slaughtering over the last three years:-

Year	Horses	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total	No. of visits
1967	54	804	40	16	3,334	3,764	8,012	531
1968	53	923	38	11	2,856	3,394	7,275	526
1969	57	1,074	19	1	3,490	3,180	7,821	550

Whole and Part Carcasses Condemned

The following table shows the different species of animals and the number of whole carcasses or parts condemned for tuberculosis, cysticercosis and other diseases:-

		Horses		Pigs		Sheep and Lambs		Cows		Cattle excluding cows		Calves	
Number killed	-	1	1,074	19	-	3,490	-	3,180	-	57	-		
Number not inspected													
All diseases except													
Tuberculosis:													
(a) Whole carcasses condemned		1	7	9	19	10	1						
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned		106	5	54	129	5							
Percentage of number examined affected with disease other than Tuberculosis		100	10.5	73.7	2.1	4.4	10.5						
Tuberculosis													
(a) Whole carcasses condemned		-	-	-	-	-	-						
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned		-	-	-	-	-	11	-					
Percentage of number affected with Tuberculosis		-	-	-	-	-	0.3	-					
Cysticercosis													
Carcase of which some part of organ was condemned		-	2	-	-	-	-	-					
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration		-	1	-	-	-	-	-					
Carcases destroyed		-											

APPENDIX E

Details of Unfit Meat Surrendered at Slaughterhouses

(a) Carcases and Part Carcases

1 Horse Carcase and Offals	-	Melanoma
2 Beast Carcases and Offals	-	Oedema
2 Beast Carcases and Offals	-	Pyrexia
1 Beast Carcase and Offals	-	Acute Septic Pneumonia
1 Beast Carcase and Offals	-	Septicaemia
1 Beast Carcase and Offals	-	Pyaemia
4 Cow Carcases and Offals	-	Oedema and Emaciation
1 Cow Carcase and Offals	-	Acute Septic Mastitis
1 Cow Carcase and Offals	-	Oedema and Septic Mastitis
1 Cow Carcase and Offals	-	Oedema and Severe Bruising
1 Cow Carcase and Offals	-	Pyrexia
1 Cow Carcase and Offals	-	Pyaemia
2 Cow Hindquarters	-	Trauma
1 Cow Hindquarters	-	Arthritis
13 Sheep Carcases and Offals	-	Oedema and Emaciation
2 Sheep Carcases and Offals	-	Moribund
1 Sheep Carcase and Offals	-	Severe Bruising
1 Sheep Carcase and Offals	-	Decomposition
1 Sheep Carcase and Offals	-	Jaundice
1 Sheep Carcase and Offals	-	Pyrexia
3 Sheep forequarters	-	Bruising
5 Pig Carcases and Offals	-	Tailbite Pyaemia
1 Pig Carcase and Offals	-	Abnormal Odour
1 Pig Carcase and Offals	-	Septicaemia
1 Pig Carcase and Offals	-	Pyrexia
1 Pig Carcase and Offals	-	Erysipelas
1 Pig Carcase and Offals	-	Jaundice
1 Pig Hind Leg	-	Abscesses
1 Calf Carcase and Offals	-	Pyrexia and Emaciation

APPENDIX E (Cont)

(b) Other Organs

5 Horse Livers	-	Echinococcosis
51 Beast Livers	-	Abscesses
24 Beast Livers	-	Fascioliasis
1 Beast Liver	-	Telangiactesis
3 Beast Heads and Tongues	-	Abscesses
3 Beast Heads and Tongues	-	Actinobacillosis
4 Pairs Beast Lungs	-	Abscesses
4 Pairs Beast Lungs	-	Pleurisy
2 Pairs Beast Lungs	-	Pneumonia
2 Beast Hearts	-	Pericarditis
1 Beast Heart	-	Degenerate Cyst
1 Beast Heart	-	C. Bovis
6 Beast Kidneys	-	Abscesses
2 Beast Kidneys	-	Necrosis
1 Beast Thick Skirt	-	Abscesses
1 Beast Thick Skirt	-	C. Bovis
1 Cow Liver	-	Telegiactesis
46 Sheep Livers	-	Parasites
2 Sheep Lungs	-	Abscesses
1 Sheep pluck	-	Contamination
1 Sheep lap	-	Peritonitis
1 Sheep Trimmings	-	Trauma
34 Pig livers	-	Ascaris
1 Pig liver	-	Peritonitis
1 Pig liver and Peritoneum	-	Tenuicollis Cysts
23 Pairs pig lungs	-	Pneumonia
23 Pig hearts	-	Pericarditis
13 Pig plucks	-	Pleurisy and Peritonitis
11 Pig heads	-	Tuberculosis
10 Pig heads	-	Abscesses

APPENDIX FBacteriological and Biological Milk Samples taken in the districtBy Bourne Urban District Council

Dealer	No. of Samples taken	Designation	Results
Pinchbeck Dairies	2 -	Pasteurised	Satisfactory
D. & G. Clarey, West Street	2	Untreated	1 + ve Milk Ring Test 1 Satisfactory

By Kesteven County Council

Pasteurised	4	-	Satisfactory
Untreated	2	-	1 Satisfactory 1 + ve Milk Ring Test

APPENDIX GDetails of Samples of Ice Cream taken in the District

Producer	No. of Samples	Result
Lyons - Pre-packed	5	3 - Grade 1 2 - Grade 2
Ross Tudor Dairies - Pre-packed	5	5 - Grade 1
Midland Counties - Pre-packed	3	3 - Grade 1
Walls - Pre-packed	2	2 - Grade 1
Walls - Loose	3	2 - Grade 1 1 - Grade 2

APPENDIX HDetails of water samples from Private Bores

Source	No. of Samples	Result		B. Coli (i)
		Coli	B	
Klondyke Abattoir	1	16	1	16
	1	6		1
	3	6		0
	2	2		0
	1	1		0
	11	0		0
Eastgate Abattoir	7	0		0
Black House South Fen	1	6		0
T. W. Mays Knackeryard	3	0		0
2 The Slipe	2	0		0
Boston Tractors West Street	1	0		0
8 Cawthorpe	1	0		0
Hilliam Twenty Drove	1	0		0
Bourne Laundry	1	0		0
3 Tunnel Bank	1	0		0

APPENDIX I

Swimming Pool - 1969 - Results of Bacteriological Examination

Date	No.	Source	Coliform B	Plate Count
20.5.69	25	Paddling Pool	0	1
20.5.69	26	Inlet	0	10
20.5.69	27	Outlet	0	15
3.6.69	28	Paddling Pool	0	0
3.6.69	29	Inlet	0	9
3.6.69	30	Outlet	0	21
10.6.69	32	Paddling Pool	0	4
10.6.69	33	Inlet	0	0
10.6.69	34	Outlet	0	10
17.6.69	36	Paddling Pool	0	250
17.6.69	37	Inlet	Present	Uncountable
17.6.69	38	Outlet	Present	Uncountable
24.6.69	40	Paddling Pool	0	2
24.6.69	41	Inlet	0	0
24.6.69	42	Outlet	0	0
30.6.69	43	Paddling Pool	0	1
30.6.69	44	Inlet	0	1
30.6.69	45	Outlet	0	0
8.7.69	47	Paddling Pool	0	12
8.7.69	48	Inlet	0	18
8.7.69	49	Outlet	0	32
14.7.69	51	Paddling Pool	0	6
14.7.69	52	Inlet	0	20
14.7.69	53	Outlet	0	24
21.7.69	54	Paddling Pool	0	18
21.7.69	55	Inlet	0	112
21.7.69	56	Outlet	0	20
30.7.69	57	Paddling Pool	0	0
30.7.69	58	Inlet	0	0
30.7.69	59	Outlet	0	0
4.8.69	60	Paddling Pool	0	50
4.8.69	61	Inlet	0	80
4.8.69	62	Outlet	0	69
25.8.69	63	Paddling Pool	0	10
25.8.69	64	Inlet	0	8
25.8.69	65	Outlet	(ix)	7

APPENDIX J

1. Number of Properties in district
2. (a) Total number of properties including nearby premises inspected following notifications
- (b) Number infested by (i) Rats
(ii) Mice
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification
- (b) Number infested by (i) Rats
(ii) Mice

NON- AGRICULTURAL	AGRICULTURAL
2,543	112
114	20
99	20
5	3
29	24
13	12
2	2

(x)

APPENDIX K

1. INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	9	4	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	54	17	1	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers Premises)	8	4	-	-
TOTAL	71	25	1	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found					Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	-	-		-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-		-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-		-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-		-

APPENDIX L

	TOTALS	5	104	61
TABLE A REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS	Offices	2	32	13
	Retail Shops	3	64	41
	Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	-	2	2
	Catering Establishments open to the public	-	5	5
	Fuel Storage Depots	-	1	-
	(1) Class of Premises	(2) No. of Premises Registered during the year	(3) Total No. of Registered Premises end of year	(4) No. of Reg. Premises receiving a general inspection during the year

Number of visits of all kinds by Inspector to Registered Premises - 68

TABLE C ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE	Class of Workplace	No. of Persons Employed
	(1)	(2)
Offices	123	
Retail Shops	213	
Wholesale Depts. Warehouses	26	
Catering Establishments open to the public	26	
Canteens	2	
Fuel Storage Depots	3	
Total	393	
Total Males	156	
Total Females	237	

APPENDIX L (cont.)

TABLE D - EXEMPTIONS

Part I	-	Space (Section 5) (2)	- Nil
Part II	-	Temperature (Section 6)	- Nil
Part III	-	Sanitary Conveniences (Section 9)- 1 (Retail Shop)	
Part IV	-	Washing Facilities (Section 10)	- 1 (Retail Shop)

TABLE E - PROSECUTIONS

Nil

TABLE F - INSPECTORS

Number of inspectors appointed under Section 52 (1) or (5) of the Act - One

Number of other staff employed for most of their time on work in
connection with the Act - Nil

